Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph 7 with the following replacement paragraph.

[0007] According to ~~the measure of the~~ dependent claim 2, the fitting is performed through a least-square minimization operation. This is an effective way of minimizing fitting errors.

Please replace paragraph 8 with the following replacement paragraph.

[0008] According to ~~the measure of the~~ dependent claim 3, the least square minimization operation is performed by solving an equation that describes a shape of a soap film loaded with a pressure field equal to a divergence of a slope vector including the first and second slope information. The inventor had the insight that in this way the surface fitting according to the invention can be expressed in a way similar to describing a shape of a soap film loaded with a pressure field. This enables using known methods for determining such a soap film shape to determine the topography of the surface.

Please replace paragraph 9 with the following replacement paragraph.

[0009] According to ~~the measure of the~~ dependent claim 5, for each point of the grid the first and second slope are measured using deflectometry.

Please replace paragraph 12 with the following replacement paragraph.

[0012] According to ~~the measure of the~~ dependent claim 8, the system includes a measurement unit for measuring for each measurement point of a measurement grid the

corresponding first and second slope information.

Please replace paragraph 13 with the following replacement paragraph.

[0013] According to ~~the measure of the~~ dependent claim 9, the measuring is performed along non-straight lines; the measurement grid being directly used for the reconstruction. The method and system according to the invention perform a fitting that works as long as a connectivity between measurement points (analogous to the nodes belonging to a finite element in a FEM mesh) can be established. It is not required that the grid is neatly arranged, e.g. that the measurement points in the two directions form an equidistant x, y or r, .phi. grid). No calibration of the measurement grid to a grid used for the reconstruction is required, avoiding the introduction of additional errors.

Please replace paragraph 14 with the following replacement paragraph.

[0014] According to ~~the measure of the~~ dependent claim 10, the measurement unit includes a deflectometry measurement unit.

Please replace paragraph 23 with the following replacement paragraph.

[0023] FIG**S**. 7**A-7F** show the exact slopes, slopes containing noise used to reconstruct the surface, reconstructed surface and error in reconstructed surface.

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